

Message Text

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TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: KIEV CONSULATE PROPERTIES

REF: (A) MOSCOW 9363, (B) STATE 165579, (C) STATE 142266,

(D) STATE 158459,

1. SUMMARY - IN MEETING JULY 7, MFA REPRESENTATIVE CONVEYED SOVIET AGREEMENT ON ACCESS TO STRELETSKAYA AND GORKY BUILDINGS, BASED ON LENINGRAD PRACTICE. HE INDICATED THE CHARGES FOR THE MOSKVA TEMPORARY OFFICE COULD NOT BE LOWERED AND AFFIRMED THAT THE STANDING SOVIET OFFER ON (REDUCED) STRELETSKAYA TERRITORY WAS FINAL. HE EXPRESSED THE SOVIET UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY WOULD BEGIN RENOVATION IN NEW YORK CONCURRENT WITH THE BEGINNING OF RENOVATION AT FLORETSIYA AND THE BEGINNING OF RESETTLEMENT OF STRELETSKAY RESIDENTS. EMBOFFS INDICATED ACCEPTABILITY OF SOVIET POSITION ON ACCESS BUT PESSIMISM OVER APPARENT LACK OF SOVIET FLEXIBILITY ON STRELETSKAYA TERRITORY AND EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT FORWARD MOVEMENT ON CONSULATES MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME. END SUMMARY

2. IN MEETING WITH ANTIPOV AND SINITSIN LATE JULY 7, EMBOFFS WERE READ LENGTHY STATEMENT AFFIRMING SOVIET STANDING POSITION (REF A) ON THE STRELETSKAYA TERRITORY WAS "FINAL". ANTIPOV CITED ALLEGED JUNE 6 GARRISON TO MYSHKOV ASSURANCE THAT SPACE OFFERED FOR TRUCK ACCESS ADJACENT TO S-16 WAS ADEQUATE AND REHEARSED WELL-BEING OF NEIGHBORS, LONG ESTABLISHED CITY PLANS, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE NEIGHBORING HOSPITAL TO BE AND ACCESS TO UNDERGROUND UTILITIES

(KOMMUNIKATSIYA), AS REASONS SOVIETS WERE UNABLE TO OFFER INCREASED TERRITORY AT STRELETSKAYA. IN ENSUING DISCUSSION, EMBOFFS REITERATED VIEW THAT ACCEPTABILITY OF STRELETSKAYA PROPERTY WAS BASED IN PART ON SIZE OF COURTYARD AND PRESENT CONCERN OVER NOW LIMITED PLOT, REPEATED US POSITION OF FLEXIBILITY ON KNOOP-DRAWN BOUNDARIES, BUT STRESSED PRIORITY NEED FOR RECEIVING EQUIVALENT TOTAL AREA. REPEATING THIS WAS FINAL OFFER, ANTIPOV REITERATED THAT AREA BEHIND PARK ON OSIPENKO-STRELETSKAYA CORNER WAS NEVER OFFERED AS PART OF STRELETSKAYA TERRITORY. HE CITED "MILITIA STUDY" WITH MEASUREMENTS OF TRUCK ACCESS NEEDS AND DISCOUNTED EMBOFFS'S PORTRAYAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR TURNING SPACE WITHIN COURTYARD. EMBASSY'S LACK OF GROUND USEAGE PLAN HAMPERED OUR EXPLANATION OF NEEDS.

3. ON MOSKVA HOTEL SUITE CHARGES, ANTIPOV TURNED DOWN OUR REQUEST FOR REDUCED LONG TERM RATE, CITING LOSSES OF INCOME FROM TOURISTS "WHO WOULD PAY MORE" THAN PROPOSED RATE FOR OFFICE USE.

4. ANTIPOV CITED NOVEMBER 1972 KOREYENKO-DUBS LETTER AS BASIS FOR LENINGRAD ACCESS PRACTICE, PROPOSING THAT US SIDE HAVE RIGHT OF ACCESS AT ANY TIME, AND THAT NOTICE FOR ACCESS AFTER WORKING HOURS BE GIVEN DURING WORKING HOURS, OR IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS.

5. ANTIPOV CONCLUDED BY STATING SOVIET UNDERSTANDING THEY WOULD PROCEED WITH RENOVATION TO NEW YORK CONSULATE BUILDING AT TIME OF THE BEGINNING OF WORK ON FLORENTSIYA APARTMENTS AND BEGINNING OF MOVEMENT OF PRESENT RESIDENTS OUT OF STRELETSKAYA. AT CLOSE OF MEETING, AFTER FURTHER ROUND OF PROBING OF SOVIET POSITION ON STRELETSKAYA TERRITORY, EMBOFFS EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT SOVIETS WOULD BE ABLE TO PROCEED IN NEW YORK ON THIS BASIS.

6. DURING DISCUSSION EMBOFFS PASSED NON-PAPERS TO SOVIETS OUTLINING POSITION ON STRELETSKAYA TERRITORY (REF B, C) AND FLORENTSIYA DOORWAYS (REF D).

7. COMMENT- THE SOVIETS CAME ON HARD, ASSERTING THEY HAD BEEN FULLY RESPONSIVE TO US REQUESTS AND SERVING NOTICE OF THEIR EXPECTATION TO PROCEED IN NEW YORK WITH RENOVATION OF THEIR BUILDINGS. ALTHOUGH ADVANCE PARTIES AS SUCH WERE NOT MENTIONED, THE IMPLICATION WAS CLEAR THAT ADVANCE PARTIES SHOULD NOW PROCEED. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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8. WHILE THE SOVIETS HAVE ASSENTED TO ACCESS ON THE LENINGRAD MODEL, WE REMAIN CONVINCED WE SHOULD HOLD OUT FOR "EQUIVALENT AREA" AT STRELETSKAYA, OR AT LEAST SOME MEANINGFUL COMPROMISE, PARTICULARLY ON THE MOTOR POOL AREA. OUR ROUGH ESTIMATE IS THAT THE SOVIET PROPOSAL WOULD CUT THE USEFUL COURTYARD AREA BY UP TO 25 PERCENT.

9. PREVIOUS INDICATIONS HAVE BEEN THAT THE SIZE OF THE STRELETSKAYA TERRITORY IS BASICALLY A MATTER FOR LOCAL DECISION. WITH PORTER PLANNING TO VISIT KIEV JULY 12-15, THERE WILL BE OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH KIEV OFFICIALS. WE WOULD PROPOSE TO RESTATE OUR POSITION ON EQUIVALENCY AND DETERMINE IF THERE IS ROOM FOR SENSIBLE COMPROMISE. MEANWHILE, IN ORDER TO TAKE THE STARCH OUT OF THE SOVIET POSITION, WE RECOMMEND STRONGLY THE DEPARTMENT CALL IN VOROTSOV TO CONVEY OUR CONCERN OVER THE LACK OF MOVEMENT ON STRELETSKAYA TERRITORY. APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S SUPPORT.
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